

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 03406 251608 Z

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ACTION MBFR-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

NEA-10 GAC-01 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OIC-04 AEC-11 ACDA-19

OMB-01 RSR-01 /155 W

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R 251525 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8557

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

MBFR CAPITALS 331

USMISSION GENEVA

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

USCINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

USDEL SALT TWO II

S E C R E T VIENNA 3406

GENEVA FOR DISTO

FROM US REP MBFR

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: MBFR: APRIL 20 DISCUSSION WITH SOVIET REP

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF REPORT BY US REP TO AD HOC GROUP ON APRIL
25 OF HIS APRIL 20 DISCUSSION WITH SOVIET REP KVITSINSKIY

BEGIN TEXT

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. ON APRIL 20, US REP HAD DISCUSSION WITH SOVIET
REP KVITSINSKIY AT LATTER' S REQUEST. KVITSINSKIY SAID HE HAD
BEEN UNEXPECTEDLY CALLED BACK TO MOSCOW, PROBABLY IN CONNECTION
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PAGE 02 VIENNA 03406 251608 Z

WITH THE BREZHNEV VISIT TO BONN. HE HAD HEARD THAT NATO HAD NOT YET DECIDED ON THE SOVIET PROPOSAL CONCERNING HUNGARY. HE EXPRESSED READINESS TO DISCUSS THE AGENDA AND COMMUNIQUE AS SOON AS THE HUNGARIAN ISSUE WAS RESOLVED, BUT SAID THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD PROBABLY AGREE ON DATE FOR MBFR NEGOTIATIONS ONLY WHEN A FIRM DATE FOR THE FIRST PHASE OF CSCE HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED.

END SUMMARY.

2. AT THE OUTSET OF THE DISCUSSION ON APRIL 20, KVITSINSKIY SAID HE HAD ASKED FOR THE MEETING TO INFORM US REP HE HAD JUST RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO RETURN TO MOSCOW. KVITSINSKIY THOUGHT THE PROBABLE REASON FOR THE INSTRUCTION WAS THAT HE MIGHT BE NEEDED IN CONNECTION WITH PREPARATIONS FOR THE PENDING BREZHNEV TRIP TO BONN. KVITSINSKIY SAID IT WAS IMPROBABLE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT HE WOULD RETURN TO VIENNA UNLESS SOME SPECIAL REASON FOR DOING SO DEVELOPED.

3. KVITSINSKIY ASKED ABOUT THE STATUS OF ALLIED DELIBERATIONS ON THE SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR THE TREATMENT OF THE HUNGARIAN ISSUE. US REP SAID HE AND NETHERLANDS REP HAD REPEATEDLY WARNED KVITSINSKIY THAT THE SOVIET PROPOSAL WOULD HAVE TOUGH GOING AND THAT THERE WAS NO DECISION. KVITSINSKIY REPLIED HE HAD ALREADY HEARD THAT NAC HAD NOT REACHED A DECISION IN ITS MEETING ON APRIL 18. US REP SAID THAT THE OUTCOME WAS UNCERTAIN, BUT, IN THE EVENT OF A FAVORABLE DECISION, SOME IMPORTANT DETAILS WOULD REMAIN TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDING THE STATUS OF THE EXCHANGE OF STATEMENTS, PUBLICITY TO BE GIVEN THESE STATEMENTS, AND THE CARRY OVER OF AGREED PROCEDURES TO THE NEGOTIATIONS. KVITSINSKIY REPLIED THAT PUBLICITY WAS THE ALLIES' OWN AFFAIR. HE SAW NO REASON TO ATTEMPT TO REACH ANY SPECIFIC EAST- WEST UNDERSTANDING ON THIS SUBJECT. WITH REGARD TO THE STATUS OF THE STATEMENTS, THE SOVIETS STOOD BY THEIR PROPOSAL THAT STATEMENTS COULD BE INCLUDED IN THE PROTOCOL OF THE FIRST PLENARY SESSION, BUT WOULD NOT GO FURTHER. THE US REP STRESSED THAT WHATEVER THE OUTCOME OF POSSIBLE FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THIS TOPIC, THE STATEMENTS MUST HAVE THE SAME STATUS AS THE PROCEDURES PAPER AND BE IN WRITTEN FORM.

4. US REP SAID IT MUST BE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT THE PROCEDURES PAPER WOULD BE CARRIED OVER TO THE NEGOTIATIONS WITHOUT THE SOVIETS ASKING OR RECEIVING ANYTHING FURTHER FROM THE ALLIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE SOVIET DESIRE TO INVITE NEUTRALS OR NON- ALIGNED AS

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PAGE 03 VIENNA 03406 251608 Z

OBSERVERS. KVITSINSKIY COMPLAINED US REP WAS PRESSING TOO HARD, AND THAT SOVIETS WOULD AT LEAST WANT TO RESERVE THE RIGHT TO RAISE DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS THE QUESTION OF PARTICIPATION BY OTHERS AS OBSERVERS.

5. TURNING TO AGENDA, KVITSINSKIY SUGGESTED THAT THE AGENDA

COULD BE LIMITED TO A CENTRAL ITEM OF REDUCTIONS OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE AND CONTAIN PERHAPS ONE OR TWO SUBORDINATE ITEMS SUCH AS AREA, PLUS A REF TO THE PRINCIPLE OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY. THIS SHOULD BE ENOUGH. KVITSINSKIY SAID SOVIETS WOULD BE AGREEABLE EITHER TO INTRODUCING THE AGENDA SUBJECT IN PLENARIES OR THROUGH THE MULTIPLE BILATERAL METHOD AND TO CONTINUING DISCUSSION ON AN INFORMAL BASIS.

6 REGARDING A COMMUNIQUE AND SETTING A SPECIFIC DATE FOR THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS, KVITSINSKIY STATED EXPLICITLY THAT HE THOUGHT THE SOVIETS WOULD BE WILLING TO AGREE TO A SPECIFIC DATE FOR MBFR NEGOTIATIONS ONLY WHEN A SPECIFIC DATE FOR THE FIRST PHASE OF CSCE HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED IN THE HELSINKI TALKS. US REP SAID THAT AS FAR AS HE COULD SEE FROM A DISTANCE, THE HELSINKI TALKS WOULD MOVE BETTER IF SOVIET REPS WOULD TAKE MORE POSITIVE ATTITUDE ON FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT. KVITSINSKIY SAID HE WAS NOT AN EXPERT ON CSCE, BUT THE WEST MUST BE REALISTIC ABOUT THE SUBJECT OF FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT. THE SOVIETS WERE NOT GOING TO GO FAR ON THIS SUBJECT, WHICH COULD HAVE DAMAGING EFFECTS WITHOUT COMMENSURATE GAINS. THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP DID NOT LIKE UNDERTAKING OBLIGATIONS UNLESS IT WAS IN A POSITION TO MAINTAIN THEM. SOMETHING MIGHT BE DONE IN THIS FIELD, BUT NOT A GREAT DEAL. HUMES

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